



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

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FLORIDA SEX OFFENDER LIVING IN EVANSVILLE CHARGED WITH FAILURE TO REGISTER

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - Barren L. Brown, 45, of Evansville, Indiana, formerly of Florida, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for failure to register as a sex offender, announced Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. This indictment is the result an investigation by the U.S. Marshal Service and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department.

The indictment alleges that between March 1, 2009 and April 3, 2009, Brown resided in the Southern District of Indiana and failed to register as required by the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act. Brown was required to register based on a conviction for the offense of offense of commission of a lewd and lascivious act in the presence of a child under the age of 16 years. The indictment alleges Brown lived and worked in Evansville, Indiana, and did not register with the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department as a sex offender as required. Brown is a registered sex offender in Florida.

Brown is charged as part of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 which was enacted on July 27, 2006. The Act, which is titled in honor of Adam Walsh, the son of America's Most Wanted television host John Walsh, who was abducted and murdered in 1981, at the age of six, is intended to protect children from sexual exploitation and violent crime and to honor the memory of child crime victims. The offense imposes criminal penalties against sex offenders who travel across state boundaries without registering with state sex offender registries in states where they reside, are employed, or are students.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by

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RE: Barren L. Brown

the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, Brown faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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